

REMARKS

Claims 1, 6 and 22 have been amended. Claims 5, 15-18 and 20 have been canceled. Thus, claims 1-3, 6, 8, 10-14, 19, 21 and 22 are now pending in the present application. Support for the amendment to claim 1 may be found in claim 5. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejections in view of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-3, 15-18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Aoi et al. (US 6,042,991) or Park et al. (US 6,830,871). Claims 15-18 and 20 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot as it applies to these claims.

In the "Disposition of Claims" section on the Office Action Summary page, and at page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that "Claims 5, 6, 14, 19, 21 and 22 are allowed." However, claim 5 should be objected to, rather than allowed, since it depends on claim 1 which was rejected. Thus, claim 5 should be allowable if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of claim 1. Claim 1 as amended recites all of the limitations of canceled claim 5, and thus represents claim 5 rewritten in independent form. Similarly, claim 22 should be objected to rather than allowed, since it depends on both claim 20 (which was rejected) and 21. Claim 22 as amended depends only on claim 21. Thus, claim 22 should now be allowable. In view of the above, claims 1, 6, 14, 19, 21 and 22 should now be allowable.

In the "Disposition of Claims" section on the Office Action Summary page and at page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner also states that "Claims 8 and 10-13 are objected to." However, since claim 8 is an independent claim, and claims 10-13 depend either directly or indirectly on claim 8, then these claims should be allowable, not objected to.

In view of the comments presented above, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, the Applicants believe that the present application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited. Nevertheless, should the Examiner identify any impediments to the allowance of the application, the Examiner is

encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to attempt to resolve any such impediments.

Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

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